

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claim 7 is objected to because of minor informalities.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Yasuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,842,371) (hereinafter "Yasuda et al.") in view of Saishu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,949,391) (hereinafter "Saishu et al.").

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 6 and 7 to improve the form thereof. Accordingly, claims 1-14 remain pending in this application for further consideration.

Objection to Claim 7

The Office Action objects to claim 7 because of informalities. Applicants have amended claim 7 by adopting the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 7 be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claim 6 stands under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite because the word "about" makes claim 6 indefinite. Applicants have amended claim 6 by deleting the word "about" in view of the Examiner's comments set forth at Section 5 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6, as newly-amended, fully complies

with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasuda et al. in view of Saishu et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that Yasuda et al. and Saishu et al., whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the electric field alignment of a ferroelectric liquid crystal (FLC) display device of the present invention.

Specifically, Yasuda et al. is directed to a TN mode interlaced driving liquid crystal display. When odd gate lines are activated, odd data lines apply pixel data to pixels of the odd gate lines. On the other hand, when even gate lines are activated, even data lines apply pixel data to pixels of the even gate lines. However, in contrast to the present invention, Yasuda et al. fails to teach or suggest the electric field alignment of the FLC display device as claimed in each of independent claims 1, 4 and 7. For example, the cited portion in col. 22, lines 17-21 of Yasuda et al. merely discloses a direction of polarization of the upper and lower polarizing plates. Applicants respectfully submit that the disclosure in Yasuda et al. is completely different from the features recited in each of independent claims 1, 4 and 7.

Moreover, Saishu et al. is directed to a driving device and method for FLC, in which scan lines are divided into two groups. Before a scan pulse is applied, a reset pulse is applied to the

scan lines to initialize the FLC. Accordingly, in contrast to the present invention, Applicants respectfully submit that Saishu et al. fails to teach or suggest the electric field alignment of the FLC display device as claimed in each of independent claims 1, 4 and 7. In other words, what Saishu et al. discloses is completely different from the present invention.

For similar reasons as those set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Yasuda et al. and Saishu et al., whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the claimed combination of a FLC display device recited by each of independent claims 9, 13 and 14.

MPEP § 2143.03 instructs that "[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 409 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has not established a prima facie obviousness rejection.

For at least the reasons as those discussed above, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of independent claims 1, 4, 7, 9 and 13-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn because Yasuda et al. and Saishu et al., whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 1, 4, 7, 9 and 13-14. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection of dependent claims 2-3, 5-6, 8 and 10-12 should also be withdrawn at least because of their dependencies upon respective independent claims 1, 4, 7 and 9 and for the reasons set forth above.

With no other rejections pending, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance.

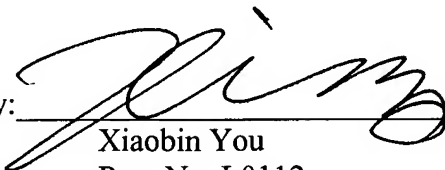
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, LLP

By: 
Xiaobin You
Reg. No. L0112

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CUSTOMER NO. 009629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Tel 202.739.3000
Fax 202.739.3001